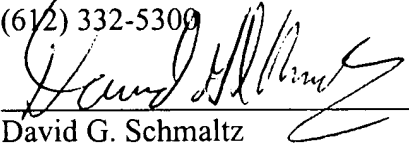


It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 1-15) is now in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 10/1/02



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